ATTORNEY GRAY

Mason's School of Beauty Culture will present Attorney Fred D. Gray, Sunday afternoon as the guest speaker at its second Variety Show, being held at the Citizens Club on Myles Street, at 5 p.m. The public is invited to attend this affair.

13th Lawyer in Alabama

MONTGOMERY, Ala. — Atty. Solomon S. Seay Jr. became the 13th Negro lawyer in Alabama and the third in Montgomery. He was issued a license to practice by the State Supreme Court on Sept. 12.

Atty. Gray To Be Speaker At 9th Congressional District

Atty. Fred D. Gray, 26-year-old Montgomery-born lawyer, is scheduled to be feature speaker at the meeting of the Ninth Congressional District of ASCAIRV set for 3 p. m. Sunday, Feb. 24 at the Canaan Baptist Church, Bessemer. Pastored by the Rev. J. H. Browder the church is located at Ninth Avenue and 15th Street, Bessemer.

The guest speaker is a graduate of the Nashville Christian Institue; Alabama State College and the Western Reserve University School of Law (Cleveland, Ohio). Upon graduation from high school in 1948 he was ordained as a minister of the gospel for the Church of Christ.

In August, 1954, he passed the bar examination in Ohio and was licensed to practice law in that state. He passed the Alabama bar test in Sept. 1954 and was admitted to the bar in this state.

Atty. Gray has served as minister or assistant minister of Gallatin, Tenn., Lanett, Ala.; IeGrand, Ala.; Cleveland Ohio and Montgomery, Ala.

He is legal adviser for the Montgomery Progressive Democratic Association, and was one of the lawyers in the bus-seating protest trials.

Mr. Gray will be introduced by Atty. Orzell Billingsley.

Other speakers listed for the program include Mrs. Helen Cooley, Willie Thomas, president of the Alabama Association for Human Rights; Jessie Gaines president of the Bessemer Civic League, greetings: Atty. David H. Hood, Jr., the occasion.

Listed for remarks are the Rev. O C. Welch, pastor of First Baptist Church of Brighton; the Rev. G. M. Frazier pastor of St. Paul CME Church; the Rev. R. L. Alford, pastor of Sardis Baptist Church and Atty. Demetrius C. Newton. W. C. Patton is listed for the appeal.

Selections by Canaan Baptist Church Choir No. 1, the Starlight Baptist Church Choir and a solo by Jesse Dansby. The Rev. G. W. Sloane, pastor of Shady Grove Baptist Church, will give the invocation. Asbury Howard president of the Bessemer Voters League, will serve as master of ceremonies.

Mr. Billingsley is chairman of the district.

ATTY. FRED D. GRAY

CIVIL RIGHTS LAWYER TO ADDRESS OMEGAS

Atty. Fred D. Gray, 26-year-old Montgomery, Ala., civil rights lawyer, will be guest speaker on the Omega Psi Phi Fraternity's Achievement Week program set for 11 o'clock Sunday morning, Nov. 17 at St. John A. M. E. Church, 7th Avenue and 15th Street, North.

His speech will center around the Achievement Week theme, "Desegregation Changed the Practices: Integration Must Establish the Values."

The occasion will be presented by Prof. Henry J. Wiliams, a member of the fraternity and president of the Birmingham Negro Teachers Association. Newman J. Terrell, basileus of the sponsoring chapter, will express appreciations.

Newstell Dowdell, a lettercarrier, is chairman of the local Omega Achievement Week promotion. The chapter has approximately 45 participating members.

ATTY. FRED D. GRAY

Mr. Gray who was a member of the battery of lawyers which argued successfully the bus segregation case in which the Montgomery racial seating laws were invalidated, was born in Montgomery, Ala. He is a graduate of Alabama State College. Mr. Gray is a 1954 graduate of Western Reserve University School of Law, Cleveland, Ohio. He passed the Alabama bar examination in August of the same year.

He is an ordained minister of the gospel in the Church of Christ.

Mr. Gray is a part of the legal staff which is defending the indicted protest leaders in Montgomery. He is legal counsel for the Tuskegee Civic Association and for the Montgomery Improvement Association.

Guest Speaker Gray will be introduced by Atty. Orzell Billingsley, Jr., chairman of the social action committee of Alpha Phi hapter of Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, sponsor of the program.

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ARKANSAS

Advocate
Jackson, Miss.
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P. 1

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AT LAWYERS MEETING HERE: In the above picture are members of the Southwest Bar Association, their wives, and guests, attending the Annual Meeting of the organization held here last week. The southwest Bar Association is composed of Negro Lawyers from the southern and south-western states. Fourth from right, front row, is Atty. Harold Flowers, of Pine Bluff, Ark. President of the organization who presided at the meeting. Second from right, back row, is Atty J. H. Young, of Jackson, elected 1958 President of the group.

JAMES R. BOOKER

James R. Booker, prominent Little Rock attorney, said: "It's going to be a long, long fight. There is more to it than you think." He sent confidential reports to Val Washington, is a target for "white supremacists" pressure who call him a "better thinking Negro." He said to them recently, "You may not be able to legislate 'good' in people's hearts, but you can keep them 'good' with troops until school is out." He is former National Bar Association president, was elected vice-president of Arkansas Baptist College 40 years. A native of Little Rock, he says that the subterranean wave of hate is increasing and will reach "terrific proportions."

THE LADY PRESIDES—Mrs. Eunice H. Carter, noted lawyer, former Assistant District Attorney for New York county presides at the Seventh General Conference of Consultatives Non-Governmental Organizations held recently at Geneva Switzerland. Mrs. Carter who as assistant to former N. Y. Governor Thomas E. Dewey won international reputation as a brilliant trial lawyer is representing the International Council of Women.

The Conference reviewed the activities of its bureau for the period 1955-1957 and adopted resolutions on the adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights on the convening of a conference of organizations interested in the elimination of discrimination, on the responsibility of non-governmental organizations towards United Nations resolutions relevant to them, and on facilities for international operation of international non-governmental organizations.

Judge Accuses Race Attorney

SHREVEPORT, La.—U. S. District Court Judge Ben C. Dawkins has accused 75-year-old Atty. Isaiah Herculaneus Spears, Pasadena, Calif., of making a career of filing civil rights suits. He ordered Spears to pay $25.30 in court costs if he wants to sue for $400,000 in a civil rights case involving Shreveport policemen and bus station officials.

Attorney Spears had filed the suit charging a policeman ordered him to leave the white waiting room in the local bus station. In his suit, Spears said he was too poor to pay court costs.

Judge Dawkins, however, said Spears had an income, owned a home in Pasadena, and tried to make money by filing civil rights suits in California, Arkansas and Louisiana. He gave Spears 15 days to pay the court costs or have the suit dropped.

Phony Lawyer Nabbed In L. A.

LOS ANGELES — (INS) — The FBI announced Wednesday that it is holding a man suspected of posing as a former Chicago attorney and practicing law in Illinois.

The FBI said the suspect, who has been using the name Robert John Frost, 40, was jailed on a warrant charging him with practicing law illegally in Freeport, Ill.

He is accused of having practiced before Judge Joseph Sam Perry in Freeport under the name of Edward A. Simmons, a qualified attorney who left Chicago for Detroit in 1941.

According to authorities, court attaches in Chicago say the man participated in at least 13 criminal cases, including the successful defense of a murder case.

HELP FOR LABOR LEADER in trouble comes from Los Angeles. Mrs. Martha Malone Jefferson, famed West Coast criminal lawyer is working as a consultant on the legal staff for Teamster's Vice President James P. Hoffa, who is on trial in the Federal District court on a charge of attempting to bribe a witness for the Senate sub-committee on labor racketeering. Left, in front of the courthouse in Washington, Hoffa, his chief counsel, Edward Bennett Williams, and Atty. Jefferson. Mrs. Jefferson who has been in practice for 15 years, is commuting between Los Angeles and Washington during the trial.

Local woman lawyer center of Hoffa controversy

Los Angeles attorney Martha Malone Jefferson was the unwitting center last week of newspaper insinuations of prominent Negroes being used to sway a Washington, D. C. jury which had 8 Negroes on it and which tried James R. Hoffa, Teamsters Union No. 2 man.

Coincidence of the jury having 8 Negroes on it, and the insinuations in the eastern press, resulted in her having to forego appearing in court in behalf of Hoffa, who was acquitted on charges of conspiracy and bribery to plant a spy within the Senate Rackets Committtee; even though she was a part of Hoffa's defense and conferred for three months with Edward Bennett Williams, who did conduct the defense, Mrs. Jefferson said.

She has built up a large national practice in Chicago, New York, and Detroit and the newspaper accusations were ridiculous, the local lawyer told the Tribune.

Since April, Mrs. Jefferson, who practices about 50 percent among non-Negro races in her downtown office, said she has been flying back and forth to Detroit on the matter, the nature of which she had refused to divulge to newspapers, including the Tribune.

She was in Washington when Hoffa, who is in line for president of the Teamsters, came to trial; but straightaway during the trial, newspaper columnists insinuated that the Los Angeles Negro woman lawyer was involved in Hoffa's defense to influence the jury.

Although she said she did not then withdraw from the case and may represent Hoffa in a pending matter, she stayed in the background from then on, Mrs. Jefferson said.

Among those alleging a 'Negro build-up' for Hoffa was Fulton Lewis, Jr., Washington columnist, who reported that the July 6 Afro-American carried a full page ad in Hoffa's behalf from the Detroit Citizens Civic committee, showing Attys. Williams and Jefferson and Hoffa.

United States Senators who commented on the trial, which ended with the acquittal Friday, also commented on the fact that former heavyweight champion Joe Louis observed the trial for a day and a half, to see what was happening to "my good friend," Hoffa.

Associated Press dispatches said Louis sat in a "conspicuous place" in the courtroom, and that Republican Senator Goldwater, of Arizona, made the comment after the acquittal that "Joe Louis makes a pretty good defense attorney."

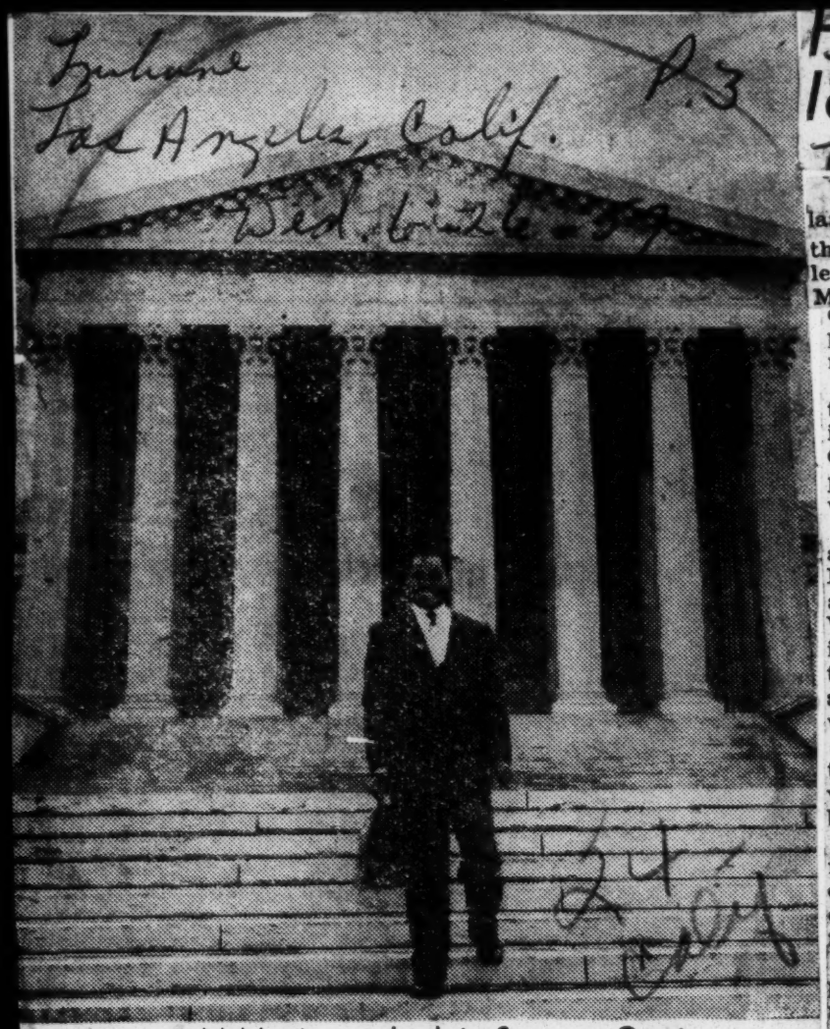
Hoffa is under indictment in New York on charges of tapping telephones of underlings in the union's Detroit headquarters. Had he been convicted on the Washington charges, he could have been sent to prison for as long as 13 years and fined up to $21,000.

Mrs. Jefferson is a 15-year-local law veteran, product of Palestine, Tex. schools, Tuskegee Institute and Southwestern law school. She is the daughter of the Rev. S. M. Malone and Mrs. Malone, of Pasadena's Metropolitan Baptist church and was in real estate in Los Angeles before going into law.

PART OF HOFFA DEFENSE — was Mrs. Martha Malone Jefferson, Los Angeles lawyer, who was a co-counsel, as far back as April, she says, for No. 2 Teamster boss James R. Hoffa, acquitted last Friday of bribery-conspiracy charges in Washington and who faces another in New York.

Mrs. Jefferson said insinuations that she was used in the defense to sway a jury which had 8 Negroes on it, were ridiculous; but after the insinuations were aired, she stayed in the background and consulted in the case only.

She is shown here with Hoffa, left, Atty. Edward Bennett Williams, and in another picture with Hoffa, who is in line for Teamsters' top office.



Attorney McMorris . . . back to Supreme Court . . .

High court to hear local lawyer's arguments again

United States Supreme Court last week ordered reargument in the case appealed from Los Angeles by local attorney Samuel McMorris challenging the validity of a local ordinance which requires persons convicted of a felony to register with the police.

In addition to McMorris and the City Attorney, the Court also invited the Attorney General of California to file a brief and to participate in the oral arguments when scheduled.

The appelant in the case was arrested by Wilshire officers in February, 1955, while hurrying across the street at Western and Washington. A policeman, according to the arrest report, assumed that she was running from him, and ordered her to stop and tell where she was going.

The woman resented this and told the officer that as she was not violating the law it was not his business where she was going.

After investigation and interrogation, the woman was booked on failure to register as an ex-convict; she had been convicted four years before for forgery.

Throughout the trial and on appeal McMorris attacked police methods in the case, but also argued it as unreasonable and unconstitutional to require a person to register with the police after he has "paid his debt to society."

This law, he contended, requires self-incrimination and the facilitation of prosecution against oneself. The lawyer also argued that the ordinance encourages unlawful arrest and search, and permits police invasion of private lives.

Lifetime police surveillance, McMorris said is "cruel and unusual punishment."

The City Attorney argued that the ordinance is a "reasonable use of the police power;" that it grew out of conditions in the early 30's when there was a great deal of alarm over an increase in the crime rate; and that its purpose was to enable the police department to check on convicted felons, as well as to discourage crime.

Bar Urges Racial Suit Action Soon

Attorneys for the District Bar Association have asked District Court to advance for trial a suit challenging the methods by which association by-laws were changed to admit Negro members.

The change was voted last May, and a score of Negro lawyers have applied for membership since. However, processing of their applications has been held up pending outcome of the Court action filed by the six Association members.

Chief Judge Bolitha J. Laws will decide whether the case should be advanced. However, the half-dozen lawyers who entered the suit also have filed a motion for summary judgment, which is expected to be argued by April 1.

Laws is not expected to rule until the summary judgment is disposed of. Yesterday the six lawyer filed an opposition to the motion to hasten trial of the case.

The plaintiffs contend that nonmembers participated in the voice-vote changing the by-laws and that a count should have been taken to make certain the change was carried by the required two-thirds of the eligible voters.

The change voted on last May dropped the word "white" from membership requirements. A month later the suit was filed by attorneys Alfred F. Goshorn, Paul Lee Sweeney, Lawrence J. Simmons, Wesley E. McDonald, Thomas J. Jackson and Dayton M. Harrington.

The Association is represented by attorneys Edward Bennett Williams, Preston King Jr. and Howard Westwood.

Bar Association reelects officers

WASHINGTON

The Washington Bar Association re-elected all its officers at the annual election meeting Thursday night.

The officers will serve for one year.

They are: Roy Garvin, president; Magaret A. Hawthorne, first vice-president; E. Lewis Farrell, second vice-president; Harry T. Alexander, recording secretary; James T. Wright, financial secretary; A. W. Jackson, corresponding secretary, and Don Lockett Young, treasurer.

Miss L. Howard Opens Law Office

Miss L. Marguerite Howard announce that she is now engaged in the general practice of law with offices at suite 612, Atlantic Building, 930 F. Street, N. W. Washington, D. C. She is a graduate of American University Law School, out of a class of two hundred thirty-three with less than twenty-five negroes. She was the only negro woman to pass. She attended Williston High School, A and T and Kentucky State Colleges. Miss Howard was secretary in the deans office at Shaw University before going to Washington where she has been employed in the U. S. Government. She is the youngest daughter of the Daniel Branet Howard's, St. Petersburg, Florida.

SWORN IN to practice before the U. S. Supreme Court was this trio of outstanding lawyers, from left: John H. Wrighten, Charleston, S. C., who was sponsored by Atty. James W. Cobb, Washington, D. C. Mrs. M. B. Stryker, Chicago, assistant attorney general of Illinois, who was sponsored by U. S. Solicitor General J. Lee Rankin; and Kecsler H. Montgomery, Boston,

Negro Women Attorneys Are Vieing For Judgeships In Washington D. C. Juvenile Court

By Alice A. Dunnigan

Washington (ANP) — A number of women attorneys including many able Negro women have been recommended for judgeship in the Juvenile Court of the District of Columbia whenever Congress passes legislation providing for the appointment of additional judge to help carry the heavy court load.

This fact was revealed by Miss Bertha Adkins, assistant chairman of the Republican National Committee, at a press conference Thursday.

Miss Adkins pointed out that more women are holding public office now than ever before in the history of this country. But she let it be known that she was still not satisfied because "divine discontentment is essential in this business."

She mentioned the proposed judgeship appointment, pointing out that there are 400 qualified women members of Washington Bar. The bill which proposes an additional judge in the District of Columbia has passed the House of Representatives and has been reported favorably out of the Senate District Committee. It is now on the Senate calender where officials hope that it will receive action before Congress adjourns.

Miss Adkins said the Women's Divisions of the Republican National Committee is constantly bringing names of qualified women before people who make political appointments. But, she admitted, it is hard to get qualified women who are willing to enter public life. "A woman can't be just equal on a job," she said, "she must be superior."

She expressed approval of the equal rights law because it has been in the Republican platform and she hopes they will fulfill this promise.

She said the President was familiar with the equal rights proposal and supports it in spite of the fact that he said at a recent press conference that he did not know how a mere man could believe that women didn't already have equal rights. Many people feel that way, said Miss Adkins, because women don't usually complain and people think they are doing all right. Women don't feel inferior, she said, but still she would like to see equal rights written into law.

Many women are not willing to enter politics because they do not want to take the knocks. Many do not realize that the criticisms aimed at them are not personal but a symbol of the opposition.

The Women's Division released a wealth of information on women in politics dating back to 1872. They listed the names of 131 women who have received high political appointments under the Eisenhower Administration, including at least a half-dozen Negro women.

Among the latter listed were Miss Roberta Church. consultant to Minority Groups at the Department of Labor; Mrs. Carmel Carrington, assistant to the U. S. Ambassador to the United Nations; and Mrs. Jessie Vann (term expired), member of the International Development Advisory Board. It also named Mrs. Jane Morrow Spaulding, consultant to the Foreign Operations Administration (agency out of operation); Mrs. Sadye Williams, special assistant to the Federal Housing Administrator and the most recent appointment of Miss Cora Brown to the Post Office Department.

The survey outlined women's participation in Republican Conventions since 1892 with 1956 marking the banner year. During the last convention 536 women served as delegates and alternates. For the first time in history 18 women addressed the Convention including Mrs. Mame Mason Higgins of Chicago and Mrs. Barrington Parker of Washington.

A total of 16 women — 9 Democrats and 7 Republicans — are now members of Congress; 38 women are currently serving in elective positions in 21 states; and 114 women lawyers are serving as justices in Federal, State, County and Municipal courts throughout the United States.

Alphas To Honor Attorney Walden

CHICAGO — Austin T. Walden of Atlanta, will be the recipient of Alpha Phi Alpha's 1957 ALPHA AWARD OF HONOR. This Award will be given at the 43rd General Convention Banquet on Saturday, August 24, in the Pacific Ballroom of the Hotel Statler in Los Angeles at which time Attorney Walden will deliver the Banquet Address.

A graduate of Atlanta University and the University of Michigan, Attorney Walden has distinguished himself in both local and National affairs.

He served as a Captain in World War I and has served for 35 years as Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Wheat Street Baptist Church. His other community activities include 15 years as the Chairman, Board of Directors, Butler Street YMCA, Member of the City Executive Committee of Atlanta, General Counsel for the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc.

Attorney Walden was the recipient of two honorary degrees in 1950, one from Morehouse College and the other from the Atlanta University.

JOHN L. EDWARDS

John L. Edwards Gets Law Degree

John L. Edwards, the son of Mrs. Ruby L. E Edwards, of Simpson Street, received the LL. B. degree from the University of Wisconsin Law Scho.l in the summer session of this year. Attorney Edwards, an honor graduate of Moreh.use College, returned to the University of Wisconsin Law Scho.l in June of of 1956 after serving with the Counter Intelligence Corps of the United States Army. While a student at Wisconsin, he was invited t> publish legal articles in the "Wisconsin Law Review", and served as editor of the "Advocate", the student newspaper. Attorney Edwards is a member of the Wisc nsin Bar, a member of Tau Epsilon Rho Legal Fraternity, and Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity.

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Able Judge Hastie

The retirement of Associate Justice Reed presents President Eisenhower with his fourth opportunity to make an appointment to the United States Supreme Court.

For the second time, the name of Judge William Henry Hastie of the Third U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals has been proposed.

In each instance the suggestion has come from Chief Judge William Denman of the Ninth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals.

In his previous appointments, Mr. Eisenhower has nominated a Protestant from California, a Protestant from New York and an Irish Catholic from New Jersey.

Now if the President sincerely believes that all elements of the population should be represented on the nation's highest tribunal, now is the time to nominate Judge Hastie.

Mr. Hastie, a superior student of the law while at Harvard, has served as dean of the Howard Law School, as assistant solicitor of the Department of the Interior, as civilian aide to the Secretary of War, as U.S. District judge in the Virgin Islands and as a governor of the Virgin Islands.

Since his appointment by President Truman in 1950, he's had a brilliant career as a Federal appellate court judge.

There's no question about his experience, his judicial temperament and his competency.

Mr. President, let's get on with it.

JUDGE HASTIE

THURSDAY TUSKEGEE INSTITUTE

DAILY ACTIVITY SHEET

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Issued Through Division of Public Relations

Thursday, May 16, 1957

VOLUME III NO. 128

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH OF COMMENCEMENT SPEAKER

JUDGE WILLIAM H. HASTIE

Judge William H. Hastie was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, November 17, 1904, the son of William Henry Hastie and Roberta Child Hastie.

He graduated from Dunbar High School, Washington, D. C. in 1921 and subsequently received the following degrees: A. B. Amherst College 1925; LL.B. Harvard University 1930; S.J.D. Harvard University 1933.

From 1925-27, Judge Hastie taught at Manual Training School, Bordentown, New Jersey. He was admitted to the bar of the District of Columbia in 1931. There he began the active practice of law with the firm of Houston & Houston of Washington, D. C.

Judge Hastie has held the following positions: member of the faculty, Howard University School of Law, 1930-37; assistant solicitor U. S. Department of Interior, 1933-37; judge of District Court of Virgin Islands, 1937-39; dean Howard University school of Law 1939-46; civilian aide to the Secretary of War, 1940-42; member, Caribbean Commission 1947-50; Governor of Virgin Islands, 1946-49.

At present, he is serving as a judge of the United States Court of Appeals for the Third Circuit.

Judge Hastie is a Fellow, American Academy of Arts and Sciences; a member of Phi Beta Kappa and Omega Psi Phi fraternities.

He is married to Beryl Lockhart Hastie and they have two children, Karen Roberta and William Henry, Jr.

Illinois Bar Admits Seven Attorneys

Seven Southside residents, all of whom graduated at the 80th commencement exercises of the John Marshall Law school in February, were among those admitted to the Bar of the State of Illinois at ceremonies before the Supreme Court in Springfield, Ill., May 28.

The new attorneys are Nicholas A. Camasto, 700 S. Independence blvd.; Ernest N. Powell and Ernest N. Powell, jr., both of 4938 S. Michigan ave.; Roand M. Stewart, 500 E. 33rd st.; Steven J. Sendziak, jr., 3219 S. Pulaski ave.; Wyllis S. Sylvester, 23 E. Des Moines st., Westmont, Ill. and Gerald L. Turek, 7036 S. Ogleshy ave.

The degrees were conferred by Noble W. Lee, Dean of John Marshall. Justice George W. Bristow of the Illinois Supreme Court delivered the commencement address.

For The Defense

Decision 50 Years Ago Leads To Noble Career

By JIM FOREE

A strapping 13-year-old youth made a decision some 50 years ago which indirectly has led him to the second highest position in the office of the Cook county public defender.

John M. Branion said he decided to get an education after walking the streets of Memphis trying to find work to support himself. Despite his athletic build, young Branion found the going tough.

He decided if he was going to get anywhere in this world he had better get an education.

The decision led him through Rust college in Holly Springs, Miss., and eventually through the University of Chicago law school.

A short while after becoming an attorney, Branion joined the staff of the newly set up public defender's office. That was on March 13, 1931. He has been there ever since.

Looking back over the 26 years, Atty. Branion said:

"I believe I have defended more murder cases than anyone else in the USA."

Since being named first assistant in 1955, Atty. Branion has not been assigned to handle as many defense cases.

He now helps decide questions of policy, helps instruct young assistant public defenders and handles most of the appeal work. Branion also is in charge of the office when Gerald Getty, public defender, is away.

Before being appointed to his present $9,600 a year position, Branion had experiences which he described as "gratifying."

He said he has defended clients charged with all kind of felonies. Among his clients have been many southern white persons, some of whom requested that he be assigned to represent them.

Branion feels that his race often has helped rather than handicapped him in his work. He asserted this was especially true when he was handling jury cases.

As an assistant public defender Branion said he has been offered several opportunities to go elsewhere, but that he preferred to stay because the public defender's office means "trying cases and that is what I like."

Continuing he said, "I might have made more money elsewhere but when you prevent someone from being convicted and not getting a fair trial, than you have no regrets. It's a feeling that you have done something which is satisfying."

Branion maintained that through out his stay he has encountered no racism and that his relationship with his co-workers has been good.

Born in Victoria, Miss., Branion came to Chicago in 1920. After graduation from the University of Chicago, he was in private practice. At that time he was closely associated with Judge Wendell Green. When the public defenders office was set up in Oct. 1, 1930, Judge Green was named an assistant. When he resigned, he recommended Branion to succeed him.

The office was established to provide counsel for anyone charged with a felony who can not afford to hire a private attorney. The office represents more than half of the persons charged with felonies.

Getty, the public defender, has a high opinion of Branion. He said:

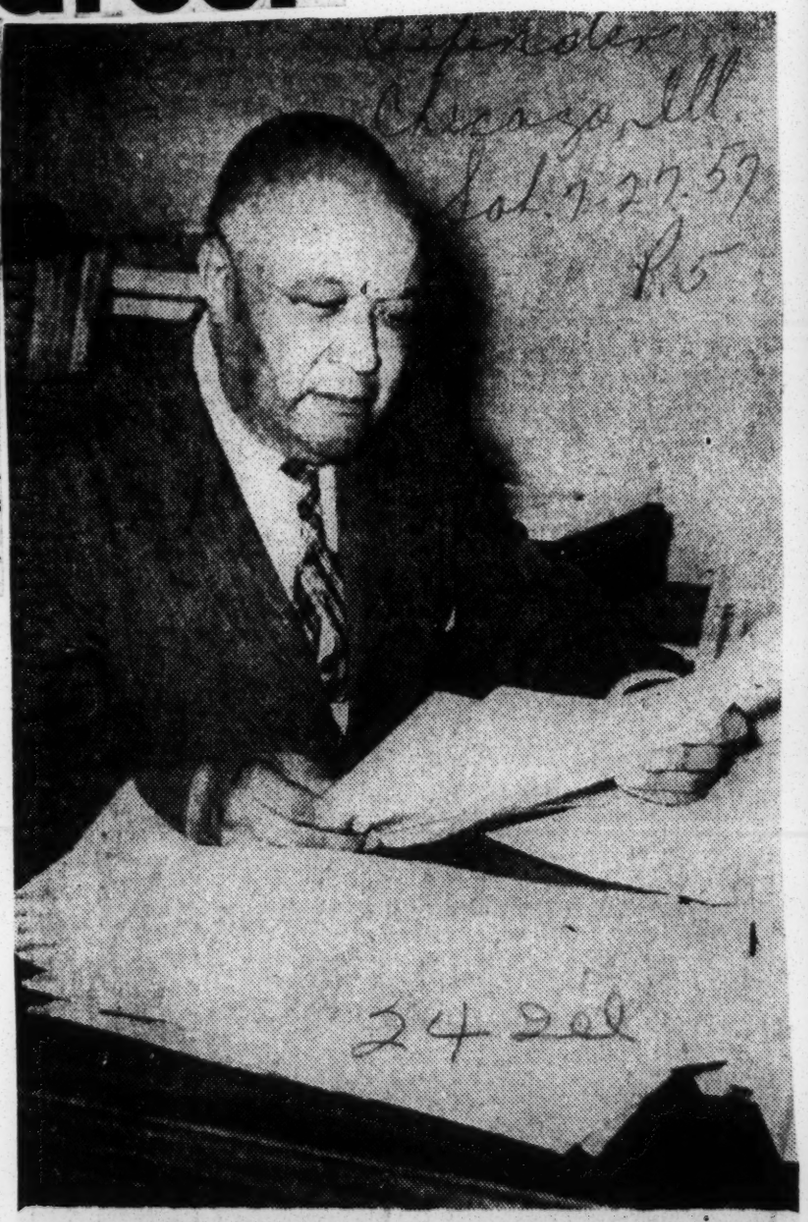
"He is a very fine gentleman, student and scholar, and one of the best lawyers.

"He is a dedicated man or he wouldn't be here. He could have made more elsewhere."

Branion lives with his wife, Anna Dell, in their home at 7254 S. Indiana ave. The couple has one son, John, jr., who is a medical student in Switzerland.

Despite his activities as an assistant public defender, Branion finds time to be active with the Cook County Bar assn., Kappa Alpha Psi fraternity and St. Marks Methodist church.

A veteran of World War I, he likes to fish and golf.



FIRST ASSISTANT Public Defender John M. Branion reads facts in office to determine how he can successfully defend a client charged with a felony.

ATTY. JOHN M. BRANION, first assistant public defender, and Atty. Joseph Atwell, assistant state's attorney, argue a point of law before Criminal Court Judge Thomas E. Kluczynski, who will have to decide question raised. Branion, as an assistant public defender, represents persons charged with felonies who cannot afford private counsel. Atwell prosecutes cases for the state. He is assigned to Kluczynski's courtroom.

RETIRED NEGRO LAWYER ROSE THRU OWN GRIT

Moses Mardis Rests on Laurels at 89

BY ROI OTTLEY

Moses A. Mardis, 89, who in 1955 was honored at an alumni dinner as the oldest living graduate of Northwestern university law school, is also the oldest Negro attorney in Chicago. He prospered sufficiently to retire 30 years ago as a substantial property owner.

Mardis

Before retiring, he practiced law as a member of a Loop firm, became an associate of the real estate operators and brokers, Draper & Kramer, and served as a supervisor of a draft board in World War I.

But perhaps the most significant aspect of his career was finishing Northwestern and becoming a lawyer in 1893—indeed, the manner in which he acquired a formal education is part of the Negro's post-Civil war history.

One of Eight Children

To begin with, Moses Aaron Mardis, one of eight children, was born Sept. 30, 1868, in Sangamon county while his family was migrating from Kentucky to settle in Illinois.

The Mardises were free people and bore the name of an ancient Huguenot family, which legend says they served as body servants and armor bearers as early as the Crusades. They were brought to the United States as slaves and freed in the 18th century.

Mardis' father, Moses, was a farmer and served as a sergeant in the Union army's 10th cavalry during the Civil war. He and his wife, Mary Susan, died during their son's infancy. The child was reared briefly by a grandmother and, at the age of 10, was handed over to an uncle to learn farming.

Uncle Opposes Education

His uncle, Wesley Smith, had a farm on the outskirts of Springfield. But, says Mardis, "He forgot he was in Illinois and failed to send me to school." Even the school authorities failed to persuade him to allow Mardis to attend classes.

As a consequence, Mardis, who had developed a desire for education, ran away and hopped a freight train to Jacksonville, where he obtained employment as a farm hand with an ex-Abolitionist, Septimus Stevenson. His wife, impressed with Mardis' desire for learning, persuaded her husband to enter him in school.

The townspeople objected to his presence in the school, but his white sponsor's firm stand enabled him not only to finish but also to return to Springfield and graduate from high school.

Works Way Thru Law

Mardis entered the University of Michigan law school, Ann Arbor, but transferred to Northwestern university law school because he could find employment in Chicago as a hotel waiter and thus support himself.

For the next few years he worked as a hotel waiter at night and during the day served as a law clerk in a white Loop firm, meanwhile studying law at Northwestern

Chicago Attorney Visits Hometown

Leroy P. Vital, a former W. W. Yates, Coles and Lincoln high school student, Leroy P. Vital, now a practicing attorney and realtor of Chicago visited friends and old scenes in the city this week.

Mr. Vital, who said he is amazed at the growth and progress he saw in his old hometown, is the present head of the 4th Ward Young Democrats club. He said he has been practicing law in Chicago for about five years.

LEROY P. VITAL

In addition to his busy legal schedule, Vital said he is manager of one of Chicago's large apartment buildings, the Belvedier building, commonly known in Chicago as "Journalists Row," because of the large number of newsmen who live in to frequent the building.

Vital said, "you might consider me a hometown boy just here on a visit with no purpose except to see and visit friends and old school mates. I just got a 'hankering' to do a prodigal son act and here I am." He returned to Chicago Wednesday morning after four days in the cty.

Unlike the prodigal son, however, Vital seemed well able to provide his own feast and anything else he desired.

24 1957

INDIANA

PERSONALITIES

24 Afro-Magazine

A Portia With Triplets

Baltimore Md.

First woman lawyer to practice in the state of Alabama — she is the mother of identical triplets.

P-5 Sat 6-8-57

By E. M. Oliver

M. Ashley Dickerson is the former Mahala Ashley, a 1935 Fisk graduate who received her law degree from Howard University in 1948.

Now the twice divorced mother of boy triplets, Mrs. Dickerson has an interracial practice which she describes as enough for any three sensible attorneys.

Mrs. Dickerson practiced in Birmingham from 1949 to 1951 and is remembered as the first colored woman to practice in Alabama.

In Montgomery, her efforts opened the courts for the first time to colored lawyers in 1950.

The famous tax evasion case which Mrs. Dickerson won in 1954 placed her among the most able of all women lawyers in the nation.

* * *

IN THE CASE, government attorneys based their case on the fact that the couple whom Mrs. Dickerson defended, had a new house just built and a bank account which could not be justified by the income reported on their tax returns.

The tax court ruled the records were sufficient evidence. During the hearing it was shown that the bank account was not unreported income, but savings accumulated in other years and formerly kept at home.

* * *

SHE TAKES pride in her three sons whom she sends to private schools.

Alfred and John Dickerson, age 17, are seniors in the Pickering College high school, Newmarket Ontario, while Henri is in the Friends Boarding School, Barnesville, Ohio.

Henri, whose full name is Henri Christophe, has been accepted at the American Academy of Dramatic Arts in New York for fall, 1957.

He recently won the Prince of Peace Award for his school in a local and county oratorical contest. It was sponsored by the Ohio Council of Churches.

* * *

ALFRED DUNGEE Dickerson and John Adaire Dickerson have distinguished themselves on the Pickering College campus and are honor students.

John is the musician of the triplets. He sings and plays the piano and has made recordings with three friends who compose a quartet.

He wrote the words and music.

* * *

MRS. DICKERSON'S sister, Mrs. Erma Ashley Dungee is the wife of Dr. A. C. Dungee of Montgomery.

She is also the secretary of the Montgomery Improvement Association which has been associated with the famed Montgomery bus boycott.

Another sister is Mrs. Harriett Ashley Wade, a Los Angeles state government employee.

MRS. MAHALA ASHLEY DICKERSON, Indianapolis attorney.

WE WOULDN'T DARE try to identify the Dickerson triplets by name. Their names are Henri, Alfred and John. They are 17 years old.

Atty. McKnight's Request to Be Excused in Narcotics Case Is Granted by Court

For the first time in his 20 years of practicing law in Iowa Attorney Henry T. McKnight asked the court to excuse him from representing a defendant — and the request was granted.

McKnight's request to be excused

ATTY. McKNIGHT

from representing one of the nine indicted on narcotics charges on the grounds that he is "bitterly opposed" to such actilities, was granted Monday by Judge Edwin Hecklin who is serving his first circuit term in Des Moines.

Served When Asked

A Des Moines Attorney since 1946, McKnight said he "had always served when asked," but pointed out "there were never any dope cases until now."

He was appointed Wednesday, Nov. 27 by Judge Hecklin to represent Richard Lee Elliot, 21, the defendant whose name was held secret in the grand jury indictment. Elliot, indicted on charges of violation of narcotics laws and conspiracy to violate narcotics laws, was to have been arraigned in federal court Monday morning but the arraignment was delayed after McKnight made his request.

Grounds

In his request to he court, McKnight said he objected to his appointment as counsel for Elliot, on the following grounds:

That he has been for a number of years the superintendent of the Corinthian Baptist Church Sunday School and "has been fighting under cover against the activities of these defendants and others in the dope-peddling ring."

Approached

That when the defendants were first arrested "the said objector (McKnight) was approached to be hired as counsel for some of them (the nine under indictment) and refused to be retained on the grounds he (McKnight) was "bitterly opposed to their activities and with good conscience he could not represent them."

Fair Play

That he feels "to be called on to defend the defendant (Elliot) in this case, who is also charged with conspiracy with some of the same defendants who sought to employ the objector (McKnight) and were refused, would be against the best interests of the defendant (Elliot) and it will be contrary to justice and fair play.'

McKnight practiced law in Sioux City for nine years before coming to Des Moines in 1946.

Polk County Bar Asks Court To Turn Down C.P. Howard's Second Reinstatement Plea

A second request for reinstatement filed in August 1957 by Charles P. Howard, 62, former Des Moines attorney, met with opposition here early this week when the Polk County Bar Association asked the supreme court to keep Howard from practicing law in Iowa. A supreme court hearing on Howard's petition is scheduled for Dec. 16.

HOWARD

Disbared in 1951

Howard, who surrendered his license to practice law in Iowa Feb. 16, 1951 three days before a scheduled hearing on disbarment charges, had his first request for reinstatement of his license, refused in 1952 by the state supreme court. According to sources close to Howard, he went to Chicago to practice but faced disbarment there when knowledge of his Iowa disbarment was learned. Since then he has been working with the Moral Rearmament group, an organization working to eliminate wars, and has traveled all over the world in the interest of the society.

Grounds

Disbarment proceedings culminated against Howard in 1951 on the grounds that he failed to account to some of his clients for money due them as a result of law cases. Howard, who had made a trip to Russia the previous year, denied the charges claiming that the disbarment action was the result of "hostile atmosphere."

Included in the former attorney's second application in August, was a recommendation for reinstatement signed by five Des Moines attorneys —W. Lawrence Oliver, Oscar E. Jones, Robert Wright, James B. Morris, jr., and Booker T. Richmond.

Atty. Richards To Practice In Supreme Court

Attorney Ralph H. Richards, 1127 Ford Place, was recently admitted to practice law before the United States Supreme Court.

A native of Cincinnati, the Louisville attorney graduated from Oliver High School, Winchester, Ky.; Kentucky State College at Frankfort; and the Howard University School of Law.

Having served in both the ETO and Pacific Theaters during World War II, Attorney Richards was admitted to the Bar in Kentucky in 1951 and has since been admitted to practice before Federal courts.

Among the organizations to which Richards belongs are Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity, Sigma Delta Tau Legal Fraternity, Louisville Bar Association, Kentucky State Bar Association, National Bar Association, Family Service Organization, NAACP, and he is also on the Board of Management of Plymouth Settlement House.

Attorney Ralph Richards

George M. Johnson, dean of the Howard University School of Law was the sponsorer who moved for the admission of Attorney Richards to Supreme Court practice.

In his move to practice before the Supreme Court, Richards was sponsored by Dean George M. Johnson, head of the Howard University Law school.

A native of Ohio, Richards attended high school in Winchester Ky., and received an A. B. degree from Kentucky State college before attending law school. During World War II, he served in both the European and Pacific theatres of war.

Receives High Court Eligibility

LOUISVILLE, Ky. — Ralph H. Richards, who has been practicing law in Kentucky since 1951, was recently notified that he is eligible to practice before the United States Supreme Court in Washington, D. C.

A June 1951 graduate of Howard university in the nation's capitol, Richards opened his office in this state the following

ATTY. RICHARDS

September, after passing the bar examination. In 1954 he was admitted to practice before the U. S. District Court for the Western District of Kentucky, and in February of this year he received permission to practice before the United States Court of Appeals.

Baltimore Bar Votes To Accept Women, Negroes

Constitution Atlanta, Ga. Tues. 6-18-57

BALTIMORE, June 17 (AP).—The Bar Association of Baltimore City, formed in 1879, voted today to admit women and Negro lawyers.

The vote for acceptance of women was 614-409 and for Negroes 606-417.

About 80 per cent of the members voted in the special secret ballot.

Women and Negroes had not been barred technically. But for 78 years it had been tradition that they were not considered acceptable.

The vote making them eligible officially does not open the way to their admission immediately.

Each lawyer must be sponsored by two already belonging to the association. Two-thirds of the members then must approve applicants.

The nominations of three Negroes and one woman already are pending.

Bar Association Votes to Admit Women, Negroes

Evening Star Washington, D.C. Tues. 6-18-57 A-2

BALTIMORE, June 18 (AP).—The Bar Association of Baltimore City, formed in 1879, voted yesterday to admit women and Negro lawyers.

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Bar Association Votes To Admit All

Afro-American Sat. 6-29-57 P. 6

Baltimore Md.

BALTIMORE

The Bar Association of Baltimore City struck down a 75-year-old discriminatory practice on Monday when a majority of the members voted by secret ballot to discontinue the practice of excluding from membership women and colored applicants.

H. Paul Rome, Association gel, 1956 president, announced gel, 1956 president announced Monday that tally of the ballots showed the members approved a discontinuance of the practice on a 60-40 percent basis.

The officials said that approximately 80 percent of the members returned the secret ballots by deadline which was last Friday.

Of the 1046 ballots returned 19 were marked invalid.

The action of the Association does not mean that the three colored attorneys and one woman who have applied for membership will automatically be accepted.

The four are: Mrs. Jeanette Wolman, Judge E. Everett Lane, Dallas F. Nicholas, president of the Monumental Bar Association, and John R. Hargrove, assistant U.S. attorney.

"I WOULD ASSUME they will take action on the applications at the next regular meeting," said Mr. Nicholas, who attended the ballot tabulation at the Southern Hotel as an observer.

Association members voted 606 to 417 for the acceptance of colored applicants. The vote for admission of women into the association was 614 to 409.

A total of 1,336 ballots was mailed out to association members.

If the committee on admissions, headed by Samuel S. Smalkin, approves the four applications, the names will be posted on the bulletin board of the regular meeting place for a period of 21 days.

We told you so

Afro-American Sat. 6-29-57 P. 12

AN EDITORIAL

We predicted editorially last week that members of the Bar Association of Baltimore City would vote to abolish the 78-year-old sex and color barriers to membership.

The special secret ballot to decide this issue when tabulated Monday revealed the following results:

For admission of women, 614; against admission of women, 409.

Baltimore Md.

For admission of colored lawyers, 606; against admission, 417.

* * *

WE WERE confident that the vote would be favoorable because we have supreme faith in the fundamental decency and honesty of the majority of Baltimoreans.

We saw no reason why members of the legal profession should be any different.

The ballot proved one other thing.

Whenever people are given a chance to vote on an issue as contrasted with the action of tight, little executive committees, the people invariably vote right.

That's why autocracy is deadening and sterile.

It is also why democracy is vibrant and dynamic.

When asked by the AFRO when action would be taken by the committee on admissions in view of the favorable balloting, Mr. Smalkin said "We have received the mandate of the members. The next step is act accordingly."

Unwritten Law Fails When Negroes Are Admitted To Bar

BALTIMORE, Md. — (ANP) — An age old traditional unwritten law that had kept Negro men and women lawyers out of the Baltimore Bar association was done away with last week and membership in the association is officially opened to Negroes.

The move was made by a vote of 614-409 acceptance of women lawyers and 606-417 for men lawyers. The vote was by special secret ballot.

Even though the vote was favorable for the acceptance of Negro lawyers into the bar association, they will have to be sponsored in order to gain admittance. Nominations of four attorneys are now pending.

William L. Fitzgerald, dean of lawyers, is 85

Afro-American Sat. 1-19-57
Baltimore Md.

By B. M. PHILLIPS

BALTIMORE

"My doctor says keep on working. If you don't you'll die.

"I'm in my office every day and downtown in the courthouse too.

"Most of my cases are in Orphans' Court. I help settle estates . . ."

William L. Fitzgerald, dean of Baltimore lawyers, was telling how he keeps well and active.

He will be 85 years old on Monday, Jan. 14.

And Thursday, Jan. 17, will mark the 57th anniversary of his law career. He passed the Maryland Bar on Jan. 17, 1900.

* * *

MR. FITZGERALD plans no special celebration to mark his 85th birthday.

"I had a big party five years ago when I was 80.

"I'll hold my next big party when I'm 100," he chuckled.

He said he and his wife of 40 years, Mrs. Lucille Wilson Fitzgerald, will have a quiet dinner in their Druid Hill Ave. home, "just as we always do."

Their daughter, Miss Jessie Fitzgerald, professor of music at Howard University, will be at home to make the family picture complete.

Afterwards, they will probably watch television.

"Mr. Fitz" or "Will" as some intimates call him, goes for prize fights and wrestling matches on TV.

"But I like radio too," he says.

* * *

AVERAGE DAY in the Fitzgerald household at 1208 Druid Hill Ave., begins about 8.

Mr. Fitzgerald starts out with a healthy breakfast.

It usually consists of fruit (grapefruit in winter, or melon in summer) cereal, toast, egg, bacon and weak coffee. ("I'm not much of a coffee drinker," he says.)

Then he goes next door to his office where he peruses the mail, the Daily Record and other papers before going downtown.

Dinner is usually at 2 p.m. His favorite meal: steak, potatoes, greens, rolls, tea.

"I'm still a good eater," explains Mr. Fitzgerald.

After dinner, he is back in his office until about 5:30 p.m.

* * *

BEFORE HE retires at night ("usually about ten") he may have what he calls "a little snack."

Despite his fondness for food, Mr. Fitzgerald keeps at a healthy 145 lbs. He stands 5 ft. 8 inches tall, and says he feels "fine."

Top weight in his younger days was 175 pounds.

Besides his law practice, Mr. Fitzgerald keeps active in his church and in several fraternal groups.

* * *

HE IS A trustee and longtime member of Madison Ave. Presbyterian Church.

"I try to go most every Sunday," he says. "I think it is nice to work in the church.

"When I was younger I belonged to many fraternal groups.

"Now I'm an Elk, a Mason, an Alpha and I take part in the Monumental Bar Association program."

Mr. Fitzgerald's formula for a long and happy life such as he has enjoyed:

"Keep on doing what you want to do . . . what you like to do.

"And, of course, adhere to the Golden Rule:—Do unto others as you would have them do unto you."

"It is still a very good rule."

* * *

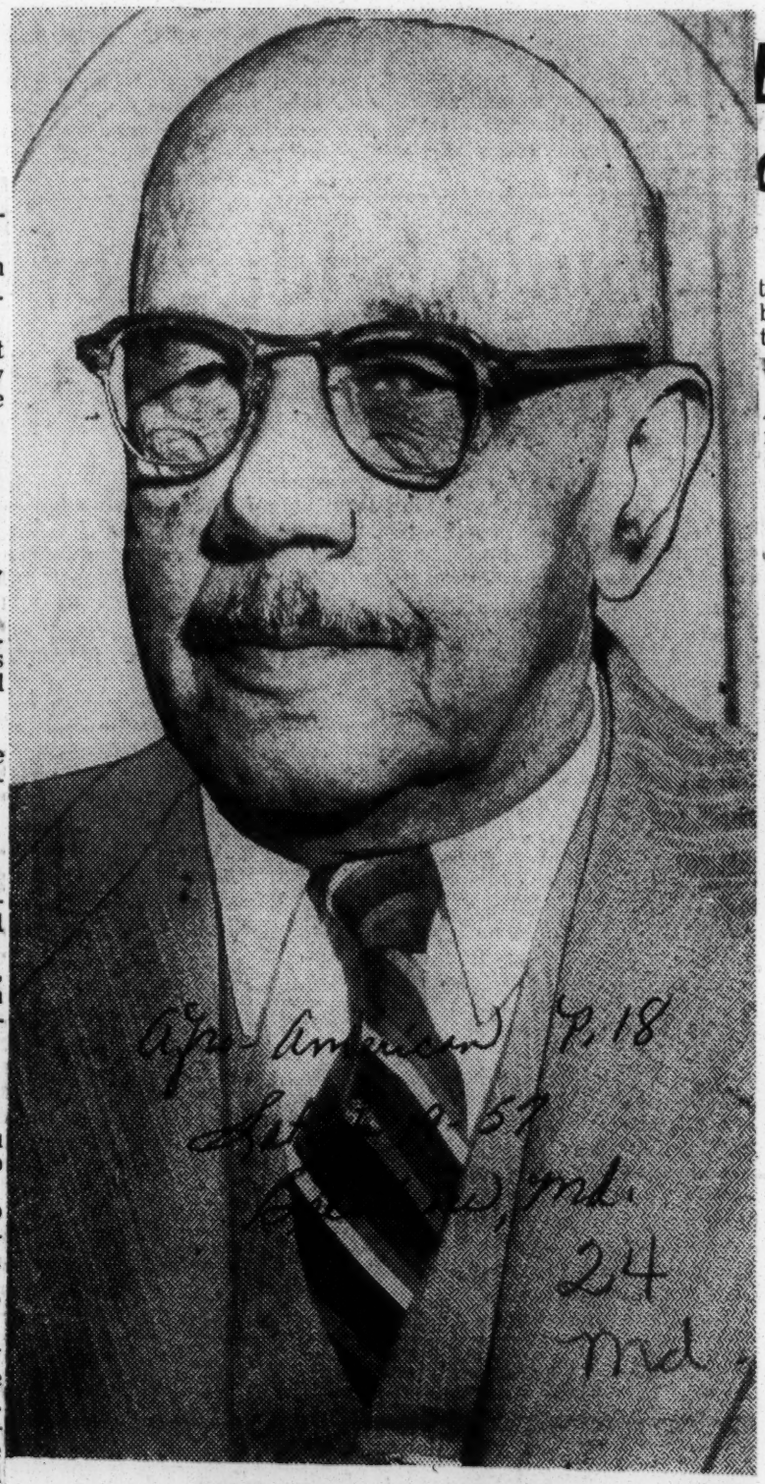
A ONETIME Baltimore City Councilman (1919-23, when he represented the 17th ward), Mr. Fitzgerald is a native of Jonesboro, Tenn. son of the late Joseph M. and Mary A. Ford Fitzgerald.

He was baptized William Lafayette Fitzgerald.

His three brothers, now deceased, were Howard University graduates like himself, and pioneers in their fields.

Cornelius C. was a lawyer; Dr. Edward V., was a physician; and Dr. John L. was a druggist.

OF BALTIMORE, Mr. Fitzgerald says there are two things he would like to see come to pass in his lifetime:



WILLIAM L. FITZGERALD

Dean of Md. lawyers will be 85 years old on Monday.

"I won't be satisfied until hotels in Baltimore accept colored people like everybody else.

"And I won't be satisfied until department stores in Baltimore serve colored customers just as they serve white customers."

"Mr. Fitz" usually tells this story to illustrate how he feels: "I was in Chicago with my wife, Lucille, and my daughter, Jessie. We stayed at the best hotel and the womenfolk shopped in the best stores in town.

"When we came back to Baltimore, I felt like an outcast. Baltimore is behind the times. It should wake up."

Lane, Hargrove, Nicholas admitted to Bar Assn.

Afro-American P. 18

BALTIMORE

"It gives me great pleasure to advise you that you have been elected to membership in the Bar Association of Baltimore City."

"Your attention is directed to Association that a person does not become a member until he signs the roster of membership which is in possession of the treasurer of the Association.

This letter under the signature of Francis B. Burch, secretary of the admissions committee of the Baltimore Bar Association, signal the end Monday to racial discrimination in the legal group with the admission to membership of three colored attorneys.

8-31-57

They were Judge E. Everett Lane, People's Court jurist; John R. Hargrove, first assistant United States attorney; and Dallas F. Nicholas, president of the Monumental Bar Association.

24 1957

MICHIGAN

Negro Attorney Threatened With Jail By Angry Judge

By The Associated Press

PONTIAC, Mich., Nov. 23.—Negro attorney Milton R. Henry, threatened with a jail sentence by an irate Federal jurist in Detroit Wednesday, has had a stormy career punctuated by clashes with judges.

The latest incident arose from a suit filed by Henry alleging that the Pontiac School Board forced his daughter to attend segregated classes by building new elementary school in an all-Negro district. He seeks to have the girl transported by bus to a school attended by whites.

In an exchange of angry words, Federal District Judge Theodore Levin accused Henry Wednesday of delaying the case by ignoring messages from the court.

'Persecution Complex'

"If it were not for your persecution complex, I would have dismissed this case long ago or sent you to jail for 10 days," Judge Levin said.

"If you were not a Negro walking around with a chip on your shoulder, I would have disciplined you long ago."

In 1954, the attorney tangled with Federal Judge Frank A. Picard when Henry was representing a witness who had been summoned to appear before the House Un-American Activities Committee in Detroit.

Henry appeared before Judge Picard to ask that he quash a subpena against his client, Bolza Baxter, state chairman of the Labor Youth League of Michigan a group on the attorney general's subversive list.

Henry also asked Judge Picard to bar all newsmen from the projected hearings. Henry interrupted a trial with his request.

"You're asking me to put a stop on Congress. You'll have to show some law on that," Judge Picard said.

As Henry raised his voice, Judge Picard interrupted him with, "You keep quiet, you can't outshout me in this court."

Judge Picard denied the petition and went to his chamber. Shortly, Henry appeared there.

At the doorway, the judge put out his hand toward Henry and said, "You can't come in here. I have some people in here."

"You have no right to lay hands on me, I'll knock you . . ." Henry shouted.

Judge Picard said he had not intended to touch Henry but added, "Don't try to get tough with me." Judge Picard, then 64, was a former University of Michigan football player. Henry was then 35.

Henry calmed down and said quietly he was seeking use of the law library and then left.

Dishonorably Discharged

Henry is a former Air Force lieutenant who was dishonorably discharged after a court-martial convicted him of disrespect to superior officers and repeated absences without leave.

His verbal clashes with Oakland County circuit judges and Pontiac municipal judges as well as with opposing counsels and witnesses have made him proverbial in the Pontiac area. He was recently acquitted in Municipal Court on a charge of assault and battery against a police officer who was attempting to tow away his illegally parked car from behind the County Courthouse in downtown Pontiac.

Henry was acquitted on grounds that the towing ordinance was unconstitutional. He admitted hitting the officer.

Mrs. Leona H. Pouncey Weds A. Odell Thurman

In the presence of about 25 relatives and close friends, Mrs. Leona H. Pouncey, Kansas City's only Negro woman lawyer, was married to Mr. A. Odell Thurman, principal of the Phillis Wheatley school, on New Year's night at the home of Mr. Sidney E. Johnson, 2447 Montgall Ave.

The marriage ceremony was performed by the Rev. D. A. Holmes, pastor of the Paseo Baptist church, who was assisted by the Rev. A. G. Thurman of Mexico, Mo., the father of the bridegroom. The Rev. Mr. Thurman is pastor of the Ward Chapel AME church in Mexico.

The single-ring ceremony was performed before the flower-trimmed mantle in the living room of the Johnson home.

Prior to the reading of the marriage vows, Mrs. Gertrude Keith, accompanied by Mrs. Arona C. Elders, sang "Ich Liebe Dich" ("I Love Thee") by Edward Grieg and "Because."

Mrs. Elders played the traditional wedding march by Wagner as Mrs. Pouncey descended the steps to join Mr. Thurman in the living room.

The bride's only attendant was Mrs. George A. Hishaw, who served as matron of honor. Mr. Thurman's brother, Walter G. Thurman of Chicago, was his best man.

The bride's wedding gown was an original bare-top full-length formal of pure silk chiffon from France, mauve in color and of the sheerest weave. Many folds of chiffon formed the high bodice in front with a sheath-like skirt draped up to the left side. The back of the dress carried a shirred bodice with the fullness of the skirt falling into a short train that also draped up to the left side.

Several yards of chiffon attached to the left in front and back were designed to form a part of the fullness in the back skirt. When falling loose, this could be brought up and over the shoulders to wear as a stole. Hem-stitching was used to finish the stole part that completed the empire lines.

Mrs. Pouncey's headdress was a halo made of mauve net trimmed in seed pearls. She wore rhinestone studded shoes.

Her long white gloves had the fourth finger of the left hand cut away to receive the ring.

The bride also wore a white orchid and pearl and diamond earrings, which were gifts from her bridegroom.

Mrs. Hishaw's gown was a two-tone satin bare-top formal of turquoise green and shocking pink. It also was an original.

Besides the parents and brother of Mr. Thurman, other relatives of the couple attending the ceremony were Mrs. Thelma Anderson, sister of the bridegroom and Mr. and Mrs. Henry L. Johnson, cousins of the bride.

Mrs. Pouncey's father, James S. Hendrix of Russellville, Ark, was ill and unable to attend the ceremony.

Immediately after the ceremony, a reception was held with several hundred friends of both races greeting the newly-wed couple. Numerous gifts were on display in the sun room of the Johnson home.

Mr. and Mrs. Thurman left Wednesday morning by air for Miami where they boarded a steamship for a honeymoon trip to Havana Cuba. When they return home Monday, Jan. 7, they will be at home at 2301 Michigan Ave., until their new house, on which construction has been started on W. Paseo, is completed.

Mrs. Glenn Hannahs was in charge of the arrangements for the reception. Assisting her were Mrs. Louis Steve Vaughan, Mrs. Arthur Badeau, Mrs. Archie C. Lane, Mrs. Sterling Stalsworth, Mrs. William Summers and Mrs. Wade of Omaha.

Mrs. Clara Kane was in charge of the gifts.

James Spencer Opens Law Office; Associate Of Joseph N. Moore

Attorney, James Wilson Spencer, recently opened a law office at, 505 E. 12th St., as an associate of Attorney Joseph N. Moore.

He graduated as an honor student from Booker T. Washington high school, of Memphis, Tenn. in 1943. While a student at Booker T. Washington high school, he supplemented his studies by taking various courses at Henderson Business college.

He entered Howard university in September, 1943, and worked his way through college with the aid of various scholarships. He finished from Howard in December, 1947.

In 1948 he went to New York City, where he spent several years studying at local colleges and universities.

In 1951, he returned home from New York City, and enrolled at the University of Kansas City school of law. He was active in various school activities and received several awards.

He was the first Negro to head the Legal Aid staff, and as its chairman, instituted a new system of procedure which subsequently has been adopted as the standard procedure for handling all cases coming into the Legal Aid clinic. For three years of outstanding work in the clinic, he was awarded a certificate. He graduated from Kansas City university in February, 1956. He is now practicing in Kansas and Missouri.

Attorney Spencer, is a member of the American Bar association, the Jackson County Bar association, the Missouri Bar association, and the bar association of the state of Kansas. He attends St. Peter's CME church, Eighth and Oakland, in Kansas City, Kas.

He is a member of the Alpha Phi Alpha fraternity, the Premier Partners, a local business organization, and the Beau Brummel club.

He is the son of Mrs. Fannie Spencer Hendricks, of 351 Everett Ave., Kansas City, Kas. He was married to the former Miss Juanita Brown, of Elyria, Ohio. They have one child, Karen Elizabeth.

24 1957

NATIONAL BAR ASSOCIATION

ATTY. JAMES McClendon (left) of Chicago, president of the Cook County Bar Association, visits Atty. William S. Thompson of Washington, D. C., president of the National Bar Association. The lawyers conferred on arrangements for the National Bar Association annual meeting in Chicago, August 28-30, 1958.

24 1957

NEW YORK

Woman Lawyer Named To Commerce Dept.

Coall., Texas, La.

Fri. 10-18-57

ALBANY, N. Y.—(ANP)— The appointment of a New York City Negro attorney, Mrs. Joyce Phillips Austin, as assistant deputy commissioner of the state department of Commerce was announced Monday by Commissioner Edward T. Dickinson.

Mrs. Austin's appointent fills a vacancy created by the resignation of Miss Barbara Uncker of New York City.

The post pays $9,700. Mrs. Austin will serve also as assistant director of the woman's program. Headed by Deputy Commissioner Katheryn V. Fitzgerald, the program is a service agency working co-ordinately with other divisions of the department. Through its own program of clinics, forums and workshops, it provides specialized service for the women in business and industry and college women planning business and professional careers.

Personalized assistance is rendered through a staff of business consultants. The program also makes available, without charge, publications offering practical information to woman wishing to start or expand enterprises of their own.

Recently appointed a member of Mayor Robert F. Wagner's Committee on the Problems of the Aging, Atty. Austin is also a member of the New York County Lawyers' association, Harlem Lawyers' association, New York Women's Bar association, National Council of Negro Women, New York City Urban League, executive board of the New York State Committee on Discrimination in Housing, Executive Council of the Women's Division of the Democratic State committee, Roosevelt Democratic club, Fordham Law Alumni association, Fordham Law Review association, Alpha Kappa Alpha sorority and the New York club of the National Association of Negro Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc.

A graduate of Hunter college and Fordham Law school, she is the wife of Rodman W. Austin, a teacher in the New York City public school system.

4 New Grads Pass Bar Exams In N. C.

DURHAM, N. C. — (ANP) — The number of Negro attorneys eligible to practice in North Carolina was substantially increased after the latest North Carolina State Bar Examination held early in August. Among the new lawyers who will soon hang out shingles are W. G. Pearson of Durham, Franklin M. Moore of Kinston, and George R. Green of Raleigh.

All are graduates of the North Carolina College Law School except Berry and Green. Berry graduated from the Howard Law School and Green after spending one year at the North Carolina College Law school, transferred to the Law School of the University of North Carolina.

Columbus NAACP Attorney Named Top Woman of 1956

Columbus, Ohio—Mrs. Barbee W. Durham has been chosen one of this city's top women of the year by the Columbus Citizen. Mrs. Durham is a member of the executive board and the legal redress committee of the Columbus NAACP branch.

The announcement of Mrs. Durham's selection as a top woman of the year and her picture, along with those of the other nine chosen, appeared in the Jan. 1 edition of the Columbus Citizen.

In addition to her NAACP posts, Mrs. Durham serves as a member of a regional committee of the American Friends Service Committee. She is the wife of the executive secretary of the Columbus NAACP branch.

An attorney and graduate of the University of Michigan Law School, she formerly was president of the Cleveland NAACP branch.

AT LAWYERS' MEET — The mid-year meeting of the National Association of Women Lawyers honored past presidents at a luncheon at the Congress Hotel, Chicago, with Judge B. Fain Tucker, medico-legal chairman, speaking on "From My Side of the Bench." She is shown with the president, Miss Neva B. Talley of Little Rock, and Miss Lucia Thomas, chairman of the headquarters, which are located in the American Bar Association building at the University of Chicago.—Morgan Photo.

Named One Of Top Women In Ohio

COLUMBUS (Oh'o — (ANP) — Mrs. Barbee Williams Durham, chairman of the Ohio NAACP housing committee, has been selected as one of this city's "Top Ten Women of 1956."

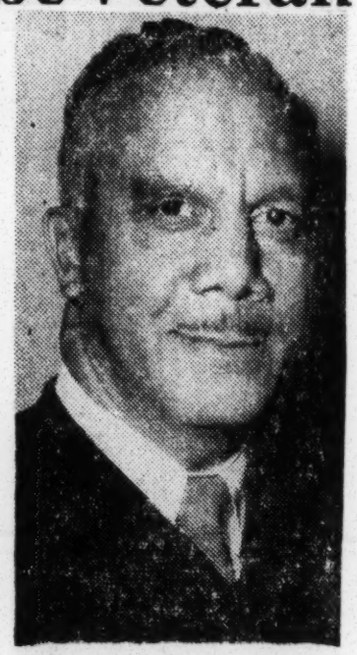
Mrs. Durham, an attorney, received national recognition for the housing conference held in Columbus last February under the auspices of the NAACP. Last June she served as vice chairman of the resolutions committee at the National NAACP conference in San Francisco.

Mrs. Durham is a graduate of the University of Michigan Law School and a past president of the Cleveland NAACP. She is presently a member of the executive board of the local NAACP and serves on the Legal Redress Committee, besides being active in other civic circles.

Profile

Jurist Probe Veteran

Inquirer P. 3
Thurs. 7-11
Philadelphia



JUDGE SPAULDING

JUDGE THEODORE O. SPAULDING, who wears his judicial robes with dignity and sagacity, is an old hand at investigations.

He got his early training as an up-and-coming young attorney for the Home Owners Loan Corp. back in the rough-and-tumble depression years. Thousands of homeowners were faced with loss of their properties. Young Spaulding started probing and helped stem the foreclosure tide.

Next step was as president of the Philadelphia branch of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People—1940 to 1943. He brought the membership to a 17,000 peak. He is still an NAACP leader at the national level.

A graduate of Howard University and the Law School of the University of Detroit, he practiced law in Detroit before coming to Philadelphia in 1931. He is married, has three children and lives at 131 W. Hortter st.

Fighting the old entrenched Republican machine in City Hall, Spaulding ran for the GOP congressional nomination in the 4th District in the 1950 primary. He won, but lost in the general election.

In July, 1953, Gov. John S. Fine named him to the Municipal Court bench. In 1955, he was elected to a full 10-year term.

Judge Spaulding is a past president of the Pyramid Club, and was among 42 prominent Americans selected in 1953 to serve as trustees of the Eisenhower Exchange Fellowship, Inc.